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Pacificque. This has been extended to such an extent that, whereas the original Convention consisted of sixty-one articles, the new one consists of ninety-four articles. The third chapter, relating to international commissions of inquiry, in the original consisted of six articles. In the new one it consists of twenty-seven articles. The changes which have been introduced are those suggested by the experience of the last eight years. They chiefly relate to methods of procedure, and are intended to simplify and facilitate recourse to arbitration. The changes thus introduced embody no new principle, and although they may be very valuable, they make no appeal to the imagination, nor will they be regarded by the public as constituting a landmark in human progress. In dealing with the Convention of 1899 the Conference has been timid to the verge of absurdity. Its only venture in the direction of strengthening the use of pacific means was the memorable addition made at Mr. Choate's suggestion to the clause concerning the use of "good offices" in averting war. The *Règlement* of 1899 declared that it was "useful" so to do. The Conference of 1907 added the words "and desirable." Every attempt to strengthen the obligation to resort to pacific means was resisted, and in the case of the International Commissions of Inquiry, the opposition was led by Sir Edward Fry, who successfully opposed the attempt of Russia to introduce an agreement to constitute such commissions when matters of fact were in dispute, instead of the mild expression of an opinion that it is useful so to do. The clause relating to "honor and vital interests," a limitation which the experience of the Dogger Bank affair proved to be nugatory, was maintained, the so-called liberal powers showing no disposition whatever to respond to the more generous initiative of Russia. Taken as a whole, the Convention is a more bulky document, containing thirty-three more articles than its predecessor, but although it may be very dear to the jurist, and may be a much more complete guide to international arbitration, it contains nothing that can be pointed to triumphantly by the pacifists as denoting a distinct advance towards their ideals.

DRAGO DOCTRINE AND THE PRIZE COURT.

The Porter Proposition has a Convention all to itself, does denote a distinct advance, and is probably the most popular visible contribution which the Conference has made for the avoidance of war. The interdict which the Conference has laid on any attempt to use force for the collection of contractual debts until the justice of the claim has been settled by an arbitral tribunal constitutes an advance towards obligatory arbitration worth all the rest of the alterations in the arbitration Convention put together. It is the one substantial change for the better made by this Conference as a conference of peace. The world owes this solitary landmark of human progress primarily to Dr. Drago, but for whose brave initiative in declaring against the principle of using force to collect state debts the question would never have been brought before the Conference at all. The Porter Proposition does not fully express the Drago Doctrine, but it is an imperfect incarnation of the gospel according to Drago, and the United States and General Porter are entitled to share in the reflected glory of the pioneer whose ideals they have assisted to materialize.

THE NAVAL PRIZE COURT.

The third Convention that has resulted from the first paragraph in the program is that relating to the Naval Prize Court. This Convention marks a great advance in the principle, but it will probably be for some time chiefly remarkable for its indirect effects. In the first case, if it had been in existence, it could only have been brought into operation for a couple of years in the last thirty-seven, for between 1871 and 1907 there were not more than two years during which the operations of naval war would have necessitated an appeal to a prize court. In the second place, there is little prospect of this Prize Court being ratified by Great Britain until the court is supplied with a naval code. The bold method recommended by the Convention, that the judges should make the law which they administer in accordance with their ideas of justice and equity, is the one daring novelty to be found in the proceedings of the Conference. With this exception, the Conference as a whole has been timid, cautious, conservative; but in this particular it has been audacious to the verge of revolution. In other respects the Naval Prize Court represents a distinct advance in two directions. It is the first attempt to create an international tribunal on a permanent basis, with judicial authority to which appeal can be made from the supreme tribunals of the signatory nations. Secondly, it is a bold assertion of the right of neutrals to be the ultimate judges of the justice and legality of the actions of belligerents. The old phrase "*inter arma silent leges*" has received a rude blow. The right of control in the interests of justice now asserted in naval war will hereafter be extended to land war, and neutrals will gradually increase their authority and jurisdiction until at last they become strong enough to interdict war altogether.

In This Sign.

(A Christmas Meditation.)

BY LAURA A. WHITMAN.

How beautiful upon the mountains are the feet of Him
who bringeth glad tidings, who publisheth peace;
Who saith unto the nations, "The Lord God reigneth; yea,
the righteous God reigneth and cruel war shall cease."

Bow down ye warring nations and turn ye toward the hills,
Yea, worship toward the high hills,
From whence cometh strength.
Lo, the chains of hate are broken,
The words of peace are spoken;
Chile and Argentine
Look to the hills between,
There have they placed the token,
Even upon the high mountains from whence is their
strength.

Over the pampas wide, toiling they brought
The statue of Christ that from cannon was wrought,
Wrought in adoration of the Prince of Peace,
To proclaim to all the nations that cruel war must cease.
Men who had served the stern war-god before,
O'er the weary mountain passes the massive statue bore.
Upward still and upward to the boundary of the lands,
Where amongst the mighty mountain peaks forever more
it stands:

To all mankind a token
That the war-god's chain is broken.

In its hand the cross uplifted
 O'er those mountains scarred and rifted,
 Where the pure white snow is drifted,
 When the raging tempests beat
 All around the sacred feet;
 Toward the heaven the face is lifted
 With expression wondrous sweet.
 Never more in all these southlands shall the war god
 favor meet.

Chile and Argentine have met and kissed upon the boundary
 line:

Now blest be Chile evermore and blest be Argentine.
 Hymn of praise through hill tops ringing,
 Grateful prayer to Heaven winging,
 Then each mountain high and hoary
 Echoing back the blessed story:
 Never was such song as that!

How the cannon boomed and thundered,
 And the condor waked and wondered,
 On his high perch waked and listened,
 Where the ice like diamonds glistened
 Round the ancient habitat,
 Where for ages he had sat.
 Frightened were the birds of prey
 From the mountain tops away
 On that grand and glorious day.

Lo, Peace has set her sign upon the hills,
 And there begun her bright, auspicious day.
 War nevermore as arbiter of ills
 Shall in those southlands have imperial sway.

The statue of the loving Christ that stands
 Upon the boundary of those lands
 Speaks peace to all, and when the tempests blow,
 And when the swirling snow,
 Shot through with light,
 Weaves aureoles about that sacred form,
 The cross uplifted still
 Shall speak His gracious will,
 Who is the Prince of Peace through calm and storm,
 Whose gentleness is everlasting might.

Look then to the mountains, all ye people of the earth,
 List to the message given when the Prince of Peace had
 birth.

Look to the high mountains, and unto you at length
 Shall come the everlasting day of beauty and of strength,
 When ye have learned the cross and not the rod
 Is the oriflamme of victory for the Son of God.

The Kaiser and the Anglo-German Friendship Committee.

The London *Friend* of November 22 gives the following account of an interview between the Anglo-German Friendship Committee and Emperor William during the latter's recent visit to England:

"The Anglo-German Friendship Committee in England, of which Lord Avebury is president, decided some time back to address the German Emperor during his visit to England, and to apply for permission to present the address personally. It may be remembered that this committee has a counterpart in Germany, and that the two act as colleagues and on similar lines.

"Permission to present the address was duly given, and the morning of the 16th inst. was appointed for the presentation at the German Embassy in Carlton House Terrace. There were other addresses to be presented. The late Lord Mayor was there with his sheriffs, who had accompanied him on his recent visit to Berlin, the

London County Council, and the English editors. Besides these and the Anglo-German Friendship Committee, there were half a dozen London German associations and the German Officers' Club. The morning was murky with fog; trains, not excepting even the royal train from Windsor, were delayed. But inside the Embassy all was bustle and color, for, though morning dress was the rule for others, the German officers were in uniform. Hussars, white, blue and buff; the Seewehr, or navy; Uhlans, artillery and many others: it was a kaleidoscopic picture, as they moved in and out. By degrees the deputations collected into groups, and the uniforms drew off into a separate room.

"The Anglo-German Friendship deputation consisted of the Duke of Argyll, honorable president, who introduced it; Lord Avebury, president; Lord Lonsdale, a vice-president; General Sir Alfred Turner; T. P. Newman, chairman; and Francis W. Fox, honorable secretary. This was the third deputation received. Whilst waiting, Lord Roberts appeared in civilian dress, and so was not at once recognizable; he was introduced to those of the party who did not already know him.

"As the L. C. C. melted away into an ante-room, the Friendship deputation immediately took their place, the Emperor stepping forward with smiling face and outstretched hand to greet them in the most cordial fashion. No address was read, and there was no reply. It was a friendly conversation, the Emperor leading it by speaking of the improved relations between the two countries. The Berlin hotels were full of English tourists, and German money was largely invested in the great English barrage of the Nile: where people put their money, he said, they desired the maintenance of peace. Members of the deputation spoke for the English people of feelings of goodwill and friendship to Germany, which they believed to be true and deep. There was no speech-making of any kind, and, with another cordial grasp of the hand, the deputation retired.

"It may be permissible to give just a personal touch to this incident. The Emperor held attention as a strong and dignified figure; not a small-made man, as he is often represented, but of full height, and only second in that respect to a stalwart member of the deputation well over six feet, broad shouldered, dark hair, without any gray, expression alert and keen, but by no means without the milk of human kindness. As no less than four of those present were personally known to him, one being an intimate friend, and as their work of promoting friendship had his cordial and sympathetic approval, it was to be expected that the reception would be friendly. But, apart from this, the face, which without doubt could be stern on occasion, indicated kindness of disposition.

"The work of the Anglo-German Friendship Committee commenced when the friction between the two nations was marked and very grave, and possibility of war was even discussed. From that time there has been a gradual improvement in the feeling on both sides, as especially shown by the altered tone of the press. There has been interchange of visits on the part of municipalities, and, still more important, by the journalists. The two peoples have improved their acquaintance, and, as always happens under these circumstances, there has been the birth and growth of mutual esteem. It has been well expressed in the universal and cordial welcome which